

**AMENDMENT**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing reflects amendments to the claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The polynucleotide sequence of claim ~~10~~ 15, wherein the multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide further comprises a signal sequence.

12. (Currently amended) The polynucleotide sequence of claim ~~10~~ 15, wherein the multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide further comprises a transmembrane sequence.

13. (Currently amended) The polynucleotide sequence of claim ~~10~~ 15, wherein the multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide comprises GapC epitopes from *Streptococcus dysgalactiae*, *Streptococcus agalactiae* and *Streptococcus parauberis*.

14. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide sequence of claim 13, wherein said more than one GapC epitopes are separated by a spacer amino acid sequence.

15. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A polynucleotide sequence ~~of claim 10~~ encoding an immunogenic multiple epitopes fusion polypeptide comprising more than one *Streptococcus* GapC epitope from more than one *Streptococcus* species, or the complement thereof, wherein said immunogenic polypeptide comprises an epitope from a Streptococcus GapC protein corresponding to

(a) the amino acid sequences shown at amino acid positions 62 to 81, inclusive, of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20;

(b) the amino acid sequences shown at about amino acid positions 102 to 112, inclusive, of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20;

(c) the amino acid sequences shown at about amino acid positions 165 to 172, inclusive, of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20;

(d) the amino acid sequences shown at about amino acid positions 248 to 271, inclusive, of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20; and

(e) the amino acid sequences shown at about amino acid positions 286 to 305, inclusive, of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.

16. (Currently amended) The polynucleotide sequence of claim 15, wherein the multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to the contiguous sequence of amino acids depicted at positions 27-448 of the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO:22.

17. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide sequence of claim 16, further comprising a signal sequence.

18. (Previously presented) The polynucleotide sequence of claim 17, wherein the signal sequence comprises the amino acid sequence depicted at positions 1-26 of SEQ ID NO:22.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 11; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide,

whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

21. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 12; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

22. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 13; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

23. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 14; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

24. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 15; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

25. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 16; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

26. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

(a) the isolated polynucleotide of claim 17; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

27. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising:

the isolated polynucleotide of claim 18; and

(b) at least one control element operably linked to said isolated polynucleotide, whereby said coding sequence can be transcribed and translated in a host cell.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 20.

30. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 21.

31. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 22.

32. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 23.

33. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 24.

34. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 25.

35. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 26.

36. (Original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 27.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 29 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

39. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 30 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

40. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 31 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

41. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 32 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

42. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 33 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

43. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 34 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

44. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 35 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

45. (Currently amended) A method for producing a multiple ~~epitope~~ epitopes fusion polypeptide, said method comprising culturing the cells of claim 36 under conditions for producing said polypeptide.

46-75. (Cancelled)